

Flathead County Road and Bridge Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Meeting
September 17, 2009 - **7:00 pm**
Solid Waste District Board Room-County Landfill

1. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Charles Lapp - Chairman, Dave Hilde, Karl Schrade, Tom Sands

Staff Present: Operations Manager Dave Prunty, Recording Secretary Karen Rogers, Administrative Assistant Mike Pence, Ryan Mitchell from Peccia & Associates

Public present: None

2. Introductory remarks

3. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Action Required

Dave Hilde moves to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2009 meeting, Karl Schrade seconds the motion. All in favor; motion passed, minutes approved.

4. Action Agenda – **No Items Requiring Action**

5. Directors Report

a. Criteria for Dead End Roads

Dave Prunty started with the dead end roads and stated he searched on the internet for criteria and also found other counties that have similar documents. He stated there are six items to start with, which had been previously discussed. He has asked Ryan to be here to help go through the discussion; he also noted the M.C.A. in the first paragraph that allows the County Commissioners to determine roads to be maintained.

He briefly explained the different criteria starting with obstructions in the right-of-way, safe turn around, minimum driving surface, no alleys to be maintained, safety concerns to employees and direct accessibility from other maintained roadways.

Brief discussion was held regarding the obstructions in the right-of-way which could cause injury to employees and damage to maintenance equipment which could include fences, retaining walls, porches, rocks, etc within 10 feet of

traveling surface. Ryan stated no private or personal obstructions should be added, and the exclusions would be power poles and mailboxes.

Concerns were discussed about whether the center line of the traveled roadway is within the center line of the right-of-way. Discussion was held about roadways that are not even within the right-of-way. Dave Prunty stated the Postal Service has criteria for mailbox pull outs.

Tom stated there should be no obstructions within 7 feet of the edge of the traveled road that is in the right-of-way. Everyone agreed to the seven foot clear zone for vehicle safety.

Dave Prunty stated the criteria will be cleaned up as to turn around, driving surface footages, etc. Tom Sands asked about roads in Somers that have only 12 foot surfaces and if the county is going to quit maintaining those roads.

Dave Prunty stated he will get with Peter Steele and clean up item number five to make it less subjective along with the other criteria.

b. Road Standards Update

Dave Prunty stated this is the last draft, comments had been received from 5 or 6 engineers and the sections have been revised based on their comment. He stated the next step will be to go to public comment followed by a meeting after that for all the comments. He continued to state that this will go to the Commissioners for a final approval. Mike Pence stated this needs to go through the official process. Dave Prunty stated that any new road has to be engineered now. He wants to get the standards finalized.

Tom Sands moves to send the final draft to the commissioners for review including the appendix. Dave Hilde seconds. All in favor; motion passed final draft of road standard to be sent to the commissioners approved. Dave Prunty stated the standards still need to go to public comment, Tom replied he would like the commissioners to review also.

c. County Transportation Plan Phase II Draft

Dave Prunty brought the committee up to date on where the Transportation plan is at. He reiterated the letter from Jeff Harris about wanting any comments back by October 8, 2009. He stated Peccia will take the comments and make any necessary changes. There will be a meeting on November 12, 2009, which will be a joint meeting with the Road Department and Planning and Zoning at the Earl Bennett Building. He stated this meeting will be the only item on the agenda from 5 to 7 which will be an open to the public for any questions.

d. North Fork Crush – Demers Pit

No discussion done at this time.

e. Chipping & Overlay Lists

Dave Hilde questioned the number of pickup trucks on small projects.

6. Comments from Committee Members
7. Comments from the Public (15 Minute Maximum)
8. Adjournment

Tom Sands made the motion to adjourn, Dave Hilde seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.